



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 6, 2010

The Honorable Ken Bennett  
Secretary of State  
1700 W. Washington Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1179 (NOW: counties; payments; reimbursements; grant revenues)

Dear Secretary Bennett:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1179. This bill was amended to modify the payment rate for approved medical claims paid by counties with more than one million persons and exempts counties with more than two million persons from reimbursing the Department of Health Services (DHS) for the cost of commitment and treatment of sexually violent persons in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11.

Currently all counties are required to reimburse the Arizona State Hospital for 25% of the cost of care relating to sexually violent persons in the Hospital's Care. This bill would exempt Maricopa County from reimbursing the State for these services, even though nearly 60% of sexually violent persons at the Arizona State Hospital originate from that county. All other counties would be required to continue to reimburse at the current level.

The exemption of Maricopa County would reduce funding necessary to treat sexually violent persons at the Arizona State Hospital by over \$1.7 million dollars annually. As a result the Sexually Violent Person Unit's Budget would be cut by approximately 17% but the level of services required by Maricopa and other counties would not change. The lack of sufficient funding for the sexually violent persons unit could potentially lead to a major public safety risk.

For this and other reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1179.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice K. Brewer".  
Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

JKB/nb

cc: The Honorable Robert Burns  
The Honorable Kirk Adams  
The Honorable John McComish

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Forty-ninth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2010

## **SENATE BILL 1179**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 8-245, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING TITLE 31, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 31-165; AMENDING SECTION 36-717, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING LAWS 2010, SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION, CHAPTER 10, SECTION 22; RELATING TO COUNTY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)